GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1130
ANSWERED ON:05.03.2008
XDR-TB IN HIV POSITIVE CASES
Singh Baba Shri K.C.

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of cases of XDR-TB have been reported from amongst persons suffering from HIV;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the preventive and remedial measures being taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE (SMT. PANABAKA LAKSHMI)

(a)&(B): No, Sir. As per HIV survey amongst new TB patients in 2007, the HIV positivity ranged from 1% to 13% in different parts of the country. The magnitude of extensive Drug Resistant (XDR) pattern of TB amongst the HIV positive is not know. The diagnosis of XDR-TB is laboratory based requiring specialized quality assured laboratories and Revised National TB Control Programme has accredited only Tuberculosis Research Centre (TRC), Chennai for the diagnosis of XDR-TB. A study carried out by this institute on 66 Multi Drug Resistant TB(MDR-TB) patients during the period of 2000 to 2005, only 1 XDR-TB case was detected. The study did not assess HIV status of the patients.

(c): National AIDS Control Programme (NACP) and the Revised National TB Control Programme (RNTCP) are jointly implementing HIV/TB collaborative activities, which include intensified screening for TB amongst HIV positive individuals and HIV amongst TB patients attending centres providing HIV testing, counseling, care and support and treatment and TB microscopy centers. Such cross referral helps in identifying dual infection and in initiating anti TB treatment and Anti Retroviral Treatment.